



The Chatham Dining Club

THE CHATHAM DINING CLUB is a well-established London dining and debating club which aims to meet six times a year. Founded in 1910 so that Army officers at the Staff College could become better acquainted with international affairs and other interests outside the military milieu, the Club has met continuously since then, pausing only for the two World Wars.

As the years have passed, the Club's objectives and membership have become much wider. For a long time now the Club has been open to anyone who is interested in world and domestic current affairs. We offer the opportunity to listen to distinguished speakers in convivial surroundings on a wide range of topical subjects of international and national interest, encompassing politics, economics, ethics and the arts.

Meetings are relatively small gatherings in convivial surroundings, consisting of dinner, followed by the speaker and what is often a lively question and answer session to which all are encouraged to contribute. The evening is under Chatham House Rules – so encouraging speakers to present their views frankly, knowing that they will not be quoted outside the meeting. The Club's membership stands at around 170 with meetings held in Brooks's, The Caledonian, The Cav and Gds, and in other clubs in St James's.

Recent speakers have included Lord Robertson; Sir John Tusa ; Baroness Helena Kennedy QC; Dame Pauline Neville-Jones; Sir Vince Cable; Lord Waldegrave; Sir Sherard Cowper-Coles; Iain Duncan-Smith MP; the Chinese Ambassador, Liu Xiaoming; the Hon Dominic Asquith; Sir Malcolm Rifkind; Lord Hennessy; Caroline Wyatt; Owen Paterson MP, Professor Chris Rapley; Lord Phillips; Justine Greening MP; Sir Anthony Seldon and Sarah Macintosh, our Ambassador to NATO.

Our speakers for 2018/19 have been Admiral Sir Charles Montgomery, Head of the Border Force; Eileen Cooper, the first woman to be Keeper of the Royal Academy School; Professor Sir Hew Strachan the historian; Lord Butler previous Cabinet Secretary and who led the Iraq Inquiry; and Sir David Manning, previously our Ambassador to the US and foreign policy adviser to Tony Blair. Our final speaker for 2018/19 is General Sir Nicholas Carter, Chief of the Defence Staff.

See www.chathamdiningclub.org.uk for further details.

Club Committee: Maj Gen Jamie Balfour (Chairman), Jeremy Archer, Nicholas Bell, Lady Carleton-Smith, The Hon James Cripps, The Hon Virginia Lovell, Annabel Rothwell, Jos Seligman, Nicholas Verney, and Serena Coad (Secretary)

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